University. However, the funds by UGC are released in accordance with certain provisions and conditions framed under the schemes. Sometimes, non-fulfillment of the prescribed conditions may result in delay, reduction, withholding/ stoppage of grant to a University under a particular scheme.

(d) and (e) No, Sir.

Regularisation of officials in SAIL

*285. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that SAIL management recruited seven Research Assistants and 33 non- executives on temporary basis, during 1995—97;

(b) if so, the details of those who have been regularized after the initial appointment, indicating the reasons for non regularization of the remaining incumbents;

(c) whether it is a fact that regularisation in respect of other candidates was done, despite a pending court case;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) if not, the facts thereof and by which date the remaining incumbents would be regularized?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJ KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) SAIL Management recruited ten Research Assistants and 33 non-executives on temporary daily rated basis during 1995—97.

(b) to (e) Out of 33 temporary employees, 32 have been regularised *w.e.f.* 30/04/2001. The one remaining temporary employee and 10 Research Assistants have not been regularised as they are covered by a stay order (dated 30.5.1997), in the writ petition (2470/97) filed by the Steel Authority Employees' Union in the High Court of Delhi, which restrains SAIL from regularising their services. The order is still in operation.

Gauge conversion of Rupsa-Bangriposi and Naupada-Gunupur rail lines

*288. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that gauge conversion work of Rupsa-Bangriposi

and Naupada-Gunupur in Orissa, sanctioned in 1995-96 and 1997-98, is still languishing;

(b) if so, the reasons for the delay in taking up the projects; and

(c) the fresh steps taken for expeditious completion of work on these projects?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) to (c) The work of gauge conversion of Rupsa-Bangriposi (89 km) was included in the budget 1995-96. In phase I, the work on Rupsa-Baripada (52 km) is in progress. The work is progressing as per availability of resources.

The work of gauge conversion of Naupada-Gunupur was included in the budget 1997-98 with the proviso that the work would be taken up after obtaining necessary clearances. Action for obtaining clearances has been initiated. The work on this project would be taken up after requisite clearances are available.

Conversion of Bhuj-Nalia Rail Line

*289. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a survey for conversion of Bhuj-Nalia rail line has been completed; and

(b) if so, by when the project is expected to be taken up?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Due to unremunerative nature and acute constraints of resources, it has not been found feasible to take up the project.

Offices of Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation at Vijayawada

*290. SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT RAO:
SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA:
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have allotted land for construction of offices of Catering and Tourism Corporation at Vijayawada in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the area of land allotted;